Community Council on Land Use Engagement

The Zoning Review Process

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Prepared by Zoning Evaluation Division, Department of Planning and Zoning



The Development Review Process

 What if someone wants do something different? (from what's permitted in their zoning district):

Examples:

- Single family detached houses are permitted but you want townhouses?
- Retail establishments are permitted but you want office?
- A six foot fence is permitted but you want an eight foot fence?
- Might be possible with a legislative action
 - Special Exception
 - Special Permit
 - Variance
 - Rezoning



(Some) Legislative Actions

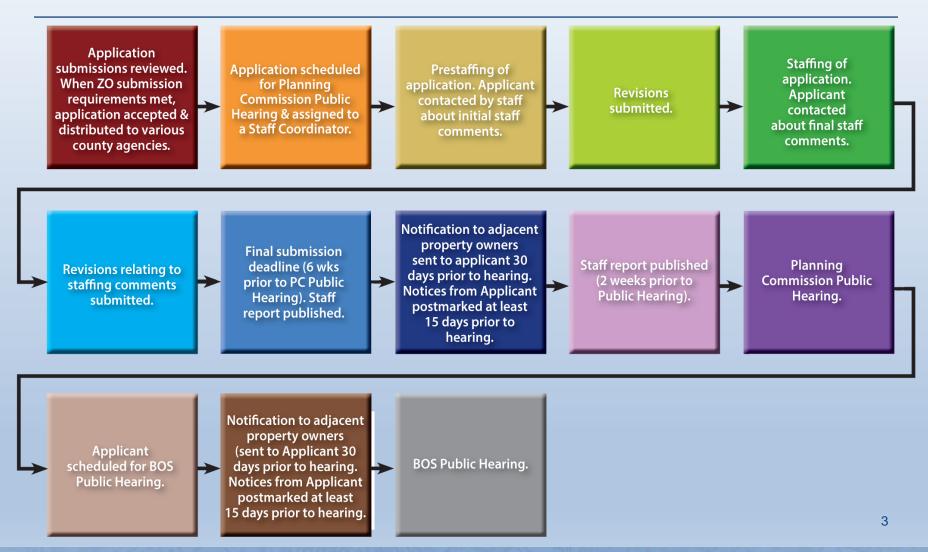
- Special Exceptions & Special Permits
 - Uses defined in the Zoning Ordinance
 - Do not change the Zoning District



- Rezoning
 - Changes the underlying Zoning District
 - Usually accompanied by a "development plan" and "proffers"
- Other public hearings
 - Variances
 - 2232 review of public facilities
 - Other Codes & Ordinances



Process: Rezoning Flow





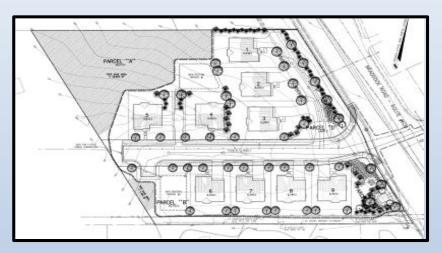
Process: Parts of an Application

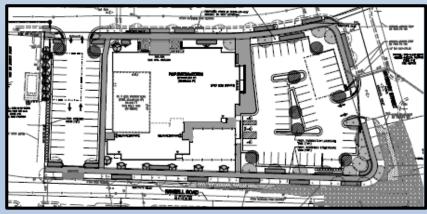
A Zoning Case usually includes

A Development Plan
 A graphic document showing the site, existing conditions and proposed changes; May include illustrative drawings

Conditions

"Proffered" Conditions written by an applicant in a rezoning or Development Conditions written by staff for Special Exceptions and other case types







Rezoning – a Collaborative Process

- Zoning Evaluation Division staff are "staff coordinators"
- Collaborative effort among all the various entities that have comments – e.g. Fire Marshal, Dept. of Transportation, Health Dept., etc.
- Identify the issues and identify how the proposed development addresses those issues
- Collaborative culture professional advice to customers
- Provide professional review and recommendation on applications













Process: the Staff Role

- Professional Recommendation
- Based on standards and recommendations in Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance and Good Planning Practice
- Identify and Address Impacts
 - Awareness of "Nexus" or a relationship between the impact of a proposal and the remedy sought
- BALANCE
 - Balance between needs of current and future citizens
 - Balance between recommendations from various reviewing agencies



Notification & Outreach

Legal Notification

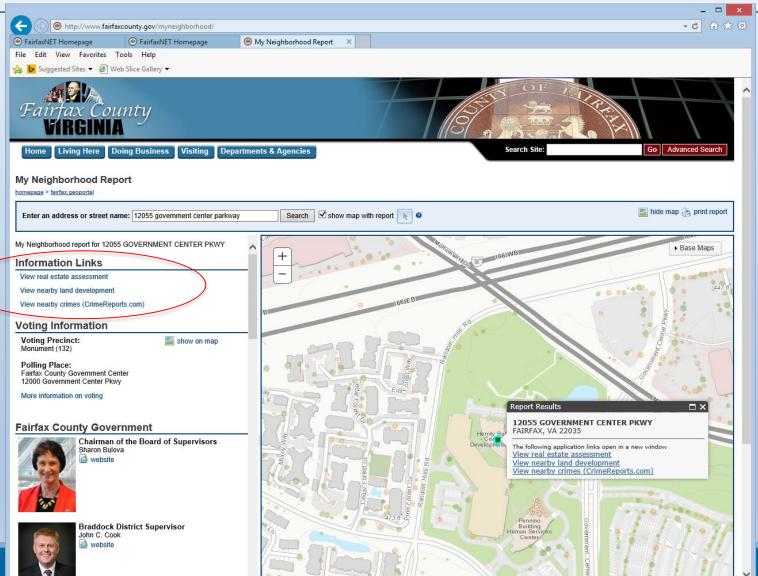
- Post physical signs on property
- Mail notices to adjacent property owners
- Run ad in newspaper

Other Outreach

- Different than Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance as these are actions by a private applicant
- Applicants are expected to do their own outreach
- Citizen Committees & Land Use Councils, etc.
- My Neighborhoodhttp://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/myneighborhood/
- Land Development System http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/

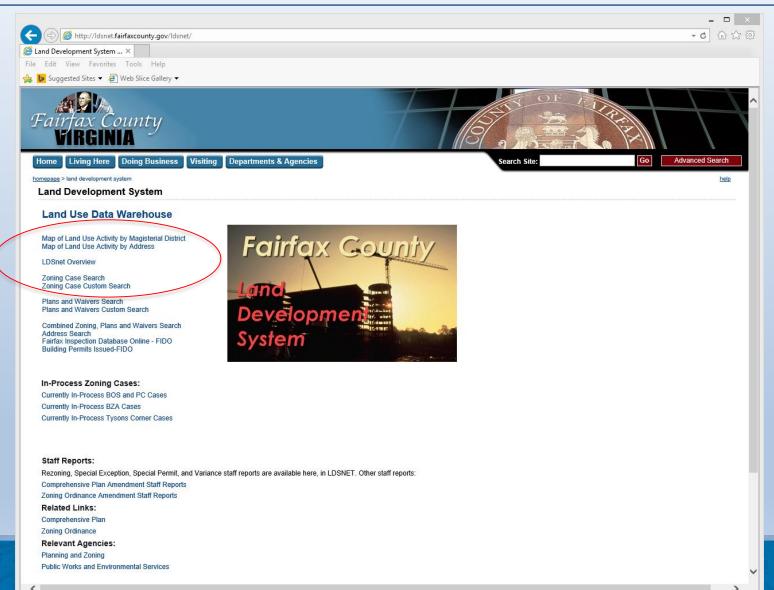


My Neighborhood





Land Development System (LDS Net)





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